



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 19, 1998

H.R. 3332

Next Generation Internet Research Act of 1998

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on May 13, 1998

SUMMARY

H.R. 3332 would authorize appropriations for 1999 and 2000 for a multiagency research initiative to advance the speed, flexibility, and robustness of the Next Generation Internet (NGI). Among the agencies that would be authorized to fund this research are the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) within the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (within the Department of Commerce), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Institutes of Health. The bill also would direct an existing federal advisory committee to assess and report on various aspects of the program's implementation.

Assuming appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3332 would increase discretionary spending by a total of \$223 million over the 1999-2003 period. The legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 3332 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

For the purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that the amounts authorized for the NGI programs will be appropriated near the start of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow the historical pattern for similar activities. We assume that the activities of the advisory committee will be funded from the amounts available to DARPA, consistent with the current funding arrangement for that advisory committee. The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3332 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 050 (national defense), 250 (general science, space, and technology), 370 (commerce and housing credit), and 550 (health).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
NGI Spending Under Current Law						
Net Budget Authority ^{a b}	60	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	28	24	6	2	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	110	115	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	51	98	57	14	3
NGI Spending Under H.R. 3332						
Authorization Level ^{a b}	60	110	115	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	28	76	104	58	14	3

a. The 1998 level is the amount appropriated for that year.

b. The National Science Foundation was authorized to spend up to \$23 million on NGI in 1998 from amounts collected from Internet Domain Registrations. Because the spending would be funded by offsetting collections, the net budget authority for NSF's NGI activities in 1998 is zero.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

H.R. 3332 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA, and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. One of the goals of the NGI initiative is to connect 100 sites at speeds 100 times faster than those of today's Internet. Many of these sites would be publicly owned universities. Some of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this bill would be used for this purpose.

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The bill would impose no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On March 24, 1998, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1609, the Next Generation Internet Research Act of 1998, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on March 12, 1998. The two bills would authorize similar spending totals for 1999 and 2000. Differences between the estimates—totaling about \$10 million over the 1999-2003 period—are attributable to differences in the two bills.

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